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**Health
 Sciences
 Library
 Associations:
 Accomplishments
 and Goals**

*Kathy J. Davies,
 Communications Coordinator*

**Health Sciences Librarians of
 Illinois (HSLI)**
 (<http://siumed.edu/lib/hslil/>)

In 1998, a record 65 members attended the annual meeting in Chicago. The board recommended revising the bylaws to extend the President's term to two years; the membership will vote on the proposal. The Marketing Task Force created a new membership brochure.

The HSLI discussion list has been established and is hosted by the GMR office at UIC. Fran Kovich, SIU School of Medicine, serves as moderator. The Membership Task Force will locate a new home for the HSLI web site. HSLI will be staffing the hospitality room at MLA on Sunday, May 16; volunteers may call Toni Tucker (309) 827-4321 ext.3186 to sign up. The annual meeting will be in Quincy on November

This issue of *3 Sources* highlights the efforts of member libraries in the Greater Midwest Region to share knowledge, experiences, resources and encourage professional development for librarians. There are currently 52 active consortia in the region providing members with opportunities for continuing education, interlibrary loan privileges, discussion of current library issues, and access to experienced professionals in the field. The GMR Consortia Local Groups committee, chaired by Donna Roginski, developed a questionnaire to discover the goals, current status and future educational needs of the regional consortia. The questionnaire results are summarized in this issue of *3 Sources*.

Emily Saderholm has written an article outlining the development, history and future plans for the Bluegrass Medical Libraries consortium. It is interesting to note that membership in this consortium is statewide and includes academic and public librarians. Another article in this issue describes the current activities of five consortia, providing a representative picture of consortia throughout the region. State associations are an-

other networking avenue for the region. A summary of association past activities and future goals in this issue reveals many excellent opportunities for professional growth.

P. F. Anderson, Nancy Allee, Jean Chung, Brian Westra, and Virginia Lingle, have published "Comparison of Health Information Megasites" on the Internet. The abstract for their comparison study of 25 Internet sites is included in this issue. The complete article is available at (<http://www.lib.umich.edu/megasite/toc.html>). TechNotes focuses on the benefits and possible disadvantages of using "free" email systems and Internet access. The GMR also welcomes three new member libraries to the DOCLINE system.

The GMR wants to include information in *3 Sources* about its members. If you have a unique experience, article, or idea to share, please contact the GMR. We all benefit by sharing new developments in the region. Contact the GMR at (800) 338-7657 or via email at gmr@uic.edu.

4-5, 1999 with Jean Simon as the guest speaker.

**Iowa Library Association-Health
 Sciences Roundtable**
 (<http://www.iren.net/~ila/health/index.html>)

Highlights of the year include a new discussion list for Iowa Health Sciences Librarians and a new web page with roundtable information. The Iowa Library Association Health Sciences Roundtable held its Spring Meeting in April at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. After the business meeting, participants toured the UIHC Patients' Library and departmental libraries in Radiology and Ophthalmology. Chris Shaffer from the NN/LM-GMR presented "Pub Med: Train the Trainer" in the afternoon.

The fall meeting was held in Waterloo, IA as a part of the Iowa Library Association Fall Meeting. New officers were

elected and NLM systems reinvention was discussed. The Roundtable co-hosted a session on Knowledge Management presented by Judy Leavitt from Rockwell International. A two-day Spring 1999 meeting is planned for April 22-23 in Iowa City.

**Indiana Health Sciences
 Librarians Association (IHSLA)**

The IHSLA has established a discussion list for its members maintained by Peggy Richwine. The discussion list is an excellent means of communication; please contact Peggy if you wish to subscribe. A committee has been established to produce a home page for IHSLA. The committee chair is Lorna Springsten, Memorial Hospital; other members are Laura Zick, Felicia Young, and Lydia Chaung.

The IHSLA Benchmarking committee, chaired by Kirsten Fredricks, is arran-

ging a half-day Continuing Education course for the Annual Meeting. The theme of the April 14-16 meeting in Greencastle is "Thinking Outside the Box: Learning From Health Care Colleagues." Contact Scott Sloman ssloman@sjhsnet.org or (765) 646-8262 for additional information.

**Kentucky Council of Health
 Science Libraries**

The council is composed of representatives from all Kentucky library consortia with medical/health science members. The objectives of the Council are: providing a means of communication within the State, and between the State and the Greater Midwest Region; identifying issues and concerns of health science libraries in Kentucky; strengthening cooperative and network activities among

Continued on page 6

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3 Sources

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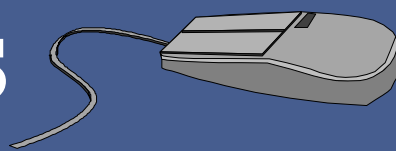
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Tech Notes



Free Internet Access! Free Email!

Chris Shaffer, GMR Technology Coordinator

Are you willing to pay the price for "free" email and Internet access?

Free Internet Access has been popular in Europe for several years, and is now making a splash in the United States with the introduction of NetZero (www.netzero.com). NetZero offers free 56K dialup access to the Internet with hundreds of local dialup numbers across the country. In return, you give up a chunk of your screen (up to 1/3) for an advertising banner that's next to impossible to eliminate while you're online. NetZero also tracks your Internet usage to develop a user profile for delivery of directed advertisements. NetZero has a good privacy policy and doesn't release your personal information. If you or your institution can't afford Internet access, NetZero is a reasonable option. Expect the arrival of additional free providers in the future. (Late Breaking Notice: Free-PC recently offered free computers and Internet access - see <http://www.free-pc.com/> - within a week 500,00 people applied for the 10,000 available computers).

There are hundreds of free email providers, of every shape and color. Some companies offer email only and don't require you to connect directly to the Internet at all. One of the most famous of these is Juno (www.juno.com), which offers nationwide dialup access to their own server. You are required to download their software and install it on your computer before using the email service. There are local companies offering similar services, for example, Ripco (www.ripco.com) which is based in Chicago offers direct dial access using any dialup software. This arrangement is similar to DOCLINE and ELHILL access. These providers usually support themselves by sending you junk mail, though some are made available as civic service projects.

There has been an explosion of free web-based email systems, like HotMail (www.hotmail.com), RocketMail (www.rocketmail.com), and several others. To use these free providers, you have to have your own connection to the web. Then, go to the provider(s) of your choice and set up an account. As expected, these sites display advertisements with your email - and some of them send advertisements to your email correspondents as well. Let the "buyer" beware!

Recently, free POP mail services have been gaining in popularity. These also require that you have an existing Internet connection, but instead of reading with your web browser you use a POP mail client like Eudora. It should be noted that Netscape Communicator includes a POP mail client. There are distinct advantages to POP mail. You can download your mail and read it offline and POP mail clients provide additional features such as filters, multiple personalities, and address books. However, they're more difficult to set up and maintain.

Finally, there are free email forwarding services - not real email boxes but free addresses that are resent to your current email system. If you need an additional address, this is a good solution.

Shop around and investigate several free Internet systems before selecting one to use. After all, you're using something for free- be aware of the options and the "costs". For more information, go to the Free Email Address Directory (www.emailaddresses.com) or search for 'free email' in your favorite search engine.

(Disclaimer: Products mentioned are examples only. The NN/LM Greater Midwest Region does not recommend, endorse, or guarantee any of these products.)

Bluegrass Medical Libraries: Rooted in the Past, Planning for the Future

by Emily Saderholm, President 1997-98

History and Purpose

The Bluegrass Medical Librarians organization was started informally in 1985. Medical librarians, medical secretaries, and others involved with health-related information joined together to form a small group which could provide a supportive community for their profession. Charter members include Janet Stith of the University of Kentucky Medical Center, Jerri Trimble of Saint Joseph Hospital, and Kathy Moberly of Central Baptist Hospital (a position now filled by Lonnie Wright), among others.

Meetings were designed to convene around the lunch hour, a tradition which continues to this day. This meeting time provided a casual atmosphere in which to share information, and yet offer professional support and development. As membership grew, Bluegrass Medical Librarians saw a need to clarify its purpose and intentions, and official bylaws were drawn up in 1987.

The purpose of this organization is to serve as a channel of communication among members. Specific objectives used for this purpose are: 1) to foster professional growth and provide a forum for exchange of ideas; 2) to share resources of collections; and 3) to actively promote quality health care in Kentucky through access to health sciences information.

Membership

Membership is open to individuals actively engaged in library and information sciences work in a health science setting in Kentucky. Other individuals outside this area may request membership. Holding an MLS or MSLS is not a requirement of membership, as many hospitals and other organizations do not have medical libraries per se. Instead they rely upon secretaries or education department staff to provide information services. By opening membership to anyone actively engaged in health information services, BML follows through on its third objective stated above; that of actively promoting quality health care in Kentucky through access to health sciences information. Through allowing non-library based personnel the opportunity to participate, BML hopes to encourage development of quality library and information ser-

vices across the state.

Currently there are about 40 active members from all areas of Kentucky. Members represent various types of institutions including hospital libraries, state-sponsored area health education centers, academic libraries, consumer health resource centers, and even public libraries. Dues are currently \$10.00 for individual membership and \$25.00 for institutional membership beginning in 1998. Historically dues for BML were \$5.00 annually regardless of whether the individual represented a large medical library, or only worked part-time providing library services to a small hospital. In 1997 the group decided to create two membership classes in order to accommodate the differences evident in its members' positions.

Meetings

Meetings take place bi-monthly, six times a year. An informal poll is taken at the beginning of each year to collect ideas for programs for upcoming meetings. From this list, programs are developed for each meeting so that members may participate in continuing education and resource sharing. The attempt is made each year to include a certified C.E. class. Recent programs include: "Positioning Yourself for Success" teleconference, March 20, 1997 (C.E. credit); Coordinating Consumer Health Information Resources; Update on Kentucky Union List of Serials and SERHOLD; OCLC's First Search Service; and Writing Web Pages with Easy to Use Software.

A union list of serials held by the group is updated and compiled annually by one of the members (William De Bord of the Eastern Kentucky Health Sciences Information Network in Morehead, KY). This list has been provided in paper format to members at cost of production. Recently, however, the list's coordinator has gained the ability to provide online access to this list via the Internet. He is currently in the process of uploading the union list to his parent institution's (Morehead University) web page. Once completed, this union list will be available at no cost to members with Internet access. Many members without advanced computer support or DOCLINE access rely upon the paper list for making inter-library loan requests.

With changing times and advancing technology, it is hoped that eventually BML members will rely solely upon the on-line record for holdings information. Maintaining and distributing the paper record is time consuming and costly.

Officers

Officers are elected after being selected by the nominating committee at the end of each calendar year. Elected officers are responsible for arranging meetings for the group, representing the group to the public and outside organizations, and maintaining the group's treasury. Officers for the 1997 calendar year were: President Emily Saderholm, Information Specialist, Health Dimensions; and Secretary/Treasurer Elliot Appelbaum, Reference Librarian, Central Lexington Public Library.

Officers for 1998 are: President Emily Saderholm, Information Specialist, Health Dimensions; and Secretary/Treasurer Martha Reed Perry, Instruction and Reference Librarian, Bellarmine College.

Bluegrass Medical Libraries was started informally over 10 years ago, to provide a casual, supportive gathering for medical information professionals who felt isolated due to their remote locations in eastern and central Kentucky. Over time, the group has developed into one of the larger special library organizations in the state. Although BML attempts to fulfill its original purpose, that of providing informal get-togethers for fellow librarians, new services such as accommodating institutional memberships, providing online access to group holdings, and an organizational web page, all help the Bluegrass Medical Libraries prepare for future change and growth.

Note: this article was originally published in Marquee: Newsletter of the KLA Special Library Section 3(3):1-3, January 21, 1998. Reprinted with permission of the author and Marquee editors.

RAC Consortia/Local Groups Questionnaire: Summary of Responses

Committee Chair: Donna Roginski

Committee members: Karen Anderson, Rosemary El-Bakari, Bette Sydelko, Winn Theril

GMR Liaison: Kathy J. Davies, Jean Sayre

Introduction

The RAC Consortia/Local Groups Working Committee has focused efforts on the committee charge of gathering information from the regions consortia. The committee developed a questionnaire to establish current contact information, most common communication method, consortium members traveling ability, and educational interests. The questionnaire was developed at the June 26 meeting in Chicago. The questionnaire was reviewed by each committee member and then mailed to the individual consortia contacts on September 3, 1998. A deadline of December 9 was set for inclusion in the report to the Regional Advisory Council.

Results

All responses were sent to the Greater Midwest Regional (GMR) office by mail, fax or email. A total of 30 consortia (54%) responded to the questionnaire by the deadline. Resource sharing is the primary focus for 93% of the respondents. Additional interests listed by the consortia included education and state union lists. 90% of the respondents have access to a fax machine, however, only 40% use e-mail or the Internet. Approximately 76% of the respondents use the telephone or telephone/fax as the chief means of communication between members. It is interesting to note that seven consortia have a separate web site and three consortia have created a discussion list for their members. The majority of the respondents (60%) preferred the cost of training to be \$50.00 or less. Traveling restrictions for attending classes were ranked as follows: 0-50 miles (48%), 50-100 miles (32%) and over 100 miles (20%).

The consortia contacts were asked to rank several educational topics according to interest level. This ranking would provide the GMR office an overview of current training needs and assist in planning future classes for the region. The ranking was performed using a simple one to ten scale, with ten being a high priority. The results were analyzed by tabulating the scores of seven or higher as indicating strong interest in a specific topic.

The top three areas of interest were searching Pub Med/Internet Grateful Med (68%), learning the new web-based DOCLINE system (64%) and finding health resources on the Internet (60%). These three topics received the most "ten" scores and every consortia indicated some interest in each. The next ranking set of topics included Alternative Medicine (41%), Consumer Health (48%), and computer technology (45%).

The questionnaire also revealed educational topics of less interest to the region. 50% of the consortia ranked telemedicine, distance education, learning TOXNET, and development of a web site as five or lower. However, for each topic, six consortia indicated strong interest with rankings of nine or ten. The lowest ranked topics were library management and cataloging with 76% of the consortia ranking these areas as five and lower. Only a single consortium indicated any strong interest in these topics.

Conclusion

The results of the questionnaire revealed the region's need for training in the use of the National Library of Medicine systems and the increased availability of the Internet as an information resource. The strong interest in alternative medicine and consumer health was a reflection of the constantly expanding options for obtaining health care information. An examination of each questionnaire demonstrated that many consortia had very specific information needs. The information provided by the consortia will be evaluated in planning future educational training. In addition, the contact information will be used to update the GMR database.

The possible reasons for the low number of consortia responses were discussed at a committee teleconference. It was suggested that several consortia hold officer elections in the fall and the contact person may change as a result. Additionally, many consortia contacts spoke to individual members, delaying the response until after the deadline. The questionnaire was sent to the contact listed in the GMR database and some contact information was discovered to be in error. The committee will evaluate options for improving contact between the GMR office and the regional consortia. The responses received described the individual consortia in great detail and the region benefits from an accurate knowledge of existing consortia.

Consumer Health Focus

National Network of Libraries of
Medicine, Greater Midwest Region

The National Library Medicine has begun reaching out to consumers as the public's interest in access to medical information has grown exponentially. The first step was allowing free public access to the MEDLINE database via the Internet. The number of MEDLINE searches has increased amazingly, from 7 million a year to 120 million. NLM has recently unveiled a web site MEDLINEplus to assist consumers in finding medical information on the Internet. The National Network of Libraries of Medicine has participated in a pilot project with 39 public library organizations in nine states designed to increase public awareness of and access to health information via the Internet. The selected sites received training in searching MEDLINE, the Internet and assistance with document delivery service.

The Greater Midwest Region has also begun to focus efforts on meeting consumer health information needs. The home page for the GMR web site arranges services according to user status and maintains a separate section for the consumer. The consumer can search a specific state for reference assistance, collection access, Internet training, online search training, mediated online searches, and Loansome Doc service. The web page also provides a brief list of Internet resources for consumer health. The October issue of 3 Sources highlighted member library outreach to patients and families and included articles on non-traditional or alternative medicine resources.

The GMR is pleased to announce that NLM is providing funding for a new Consumer Health and Outreach Librarian & Clinical Assistant Professor. The Librarian will work with state libraries, public libraries and health science libraries to develop consumer health contacts and facilitate networking. The Librarian will also develop instructional materials, train librarians to provide consumer health information services and promote NLM's consumer health programs. The position will be available May 1, 1999. If you or anyone you know are interested in this exciting new opportunity, please contact Jean Sayre at the GMR office.

Comparison of Health Information Megasites

P. F. Anderson, Northwestern University;

Nancy Allee, Jean Chung, Brian Westra, University of Michigan;

Virginia Lingle, Pennsylvania State University

<http://www.lib.umich.edu/megasite/abstract.htm>

Note: Pat Anderson is now Director, Dentistry Library Information and Education Services, University of Michigan

Twenty-five Internet sites considered authoritative sources of health information were evaluated using the following criteria: Administration and Quality Control, Content, and Design. Comparisons are made across all sites with specific focus on selection policies, update frequency, response time to email requests, and features such as use of tables, frames, Java, and animated GIFs, navigation tools, and search engines. Information was gathered by reviewing each of the sites, performing a standardized subject search, and conducting a brief survey by contacting the person responsible for maintaining the site. Conclusions drawn and recommendations made should enable librarians to better aid their clients in selecting the best sites for addressing specific questions and general information needs and should assist Web designers in developing more useful health information products.

Internet Sites Evaluated:

Achoo
Biosites
Cliniweb
Einet Galaxy
GHN
Health on the Net
HealthAtoZ
healthfinder
HealthLinks
HealthWeb
HSLs, U. Pittsburgh
Martindale's

Magellan/McKinley
MedExplorer
MedFinder
Medical Matrix
Medical World Search
MedWeb
MMRL
NOAH
OMNI
Virtual Hospital
WebDoctor
WWWVL: Medicine
Yahoo!

Technical Bulletin

The list below summarizes the articles published by the National Library of Medicine in the Technical Bulletin (<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/tb.html>). To request print copies of individual articles, please contact the GMR office.

November/December 1998

Technical Notes(e1)

Correction to the July-August 1998 NLM Technical Bulletin article titled Introducing Internet Grateful Med Version 2.6

Reminder: Gratefully Yours Ceases Publication

MEDLINE_{plus}

Perpetual Transition

Change in Service Desk Hours

SERLINE File Update

CANCERLIT File Removed

RTECS access via the Web Discontinued

New Alternative Medicine Journals Selected for Indexing

Special List B Category of Journals Eliminated

PubMed and IGM Training Available in 1999

PubMed Update

NLM Associates Program

Correction to the September-October 1998 NLM

Technical Bulletin titled MeSH Coming Attractions

Gold Standard Search (e2)

NLM Classification, 5th Edition (e3)

Additions and Changes List 3

Spring Training in the GMR

Angela Taylor, Outreach Coordinator

Spring is an ideal training time for health professionals, and the GMR staff would be pleased to assist the region's libraries with health professional training. The GMR can give demonstrations on Internet Grateful Med or PubMed. Hosting a health professional demonstration taught by GMR staff is easy and inexpensive. We bring the computer, projector, and handle the CME (continuing medical education) credit. You supply the facility, Internet connection and the announcement or flyer for the demonstration. The GMR office will cover expenses for travel and educational materials. Demonstrations are usually one hour each.

If you want to host a GMR demonstration for health professionals, now is the time to finalize arrangements.

Please contact Angela Taylor, (angelact@uic.edu) Outreach Coordinator, at the GMR office for more information.

"We bring the
computer,
projector, and
handle the
CME ...
credit."

Health Sciences Library Associations: Accomplishments and Goals

Continued from page 1

Kentucky health science libraries; strengthening national and regional network activities. The Council is planning a March business meeting with open sessions on resource sharing and a GMR update. In addition to the state council, Kentucky also has a statewide library consortium, the Bluegrass Medical Libraries.

Bluegrass Medical Libraries (<http://www.uky.edu/OtherOrgs/BML/Welcome.html>)

The Bluegrass Medical Libraries (BML) was established in 1985; today there are over 40 information professionals from special, academic, public and medical libraries participating in BML. In 1998, the BML hosted a program on Alternative & Complementary Medicine and a teleconference on Evidence Based Medicine. The BLM also participated in a joint CE meeting on Alternative Medicine with the Kentucky Health Science Library consortium in Louisville.

Michigan Health Sciences Library Association (MHSLA) (<http://www.lib.msu.edu/mhsla>)

Michigan Health Sciences Library Association was established in 1977 to meet the needs of professional biomedical librarians and information providers. The key purposes of the association are providing opportunities for professional growth, fostering communication and networking, encouraging resource sharing, increasing awareness of new technologies, and providing a professional support system for Association members. The MSHLS has an archive housed at the Alfred Taubman Medical Library at the University of Michigan; materials are copied upon request of members. MHSLA has established a discussion list and web site to provide members with information regarding meetings, conferences, committee rosters, and association activities.

MHSLA members are deeply involved in planning the Midwest Chapter Conference to be held in Grand Rapids on October 6-9, 1999. Programming will include sessions on Internet Two, electronic license agreements, electronic journals, and opportunities

for collaborations between Library and information systems staff. The Education committee is arranging a support staff workshop in April focusing on using First Search and Search Bank to access medical formation. The Metropolitan Detroit Medical Library Group has invited Francis J. Buckley, Jr., U.S. Superintendent of Documents, to address electronic government publishing at their February 15, 1999 meeting.

Health Science Libraries of Minnesota (HSLM)

The 1998 annual meeting was held in April at the Bio-Medical Library, University of Minnesota. Topics included in the sessions were the partnership between NLM and health sciences libraries; how to find clinical practice guidelines; how Health Technology Advisory Committee (HTAC), a state of Minnesota committee, uses health sciences researches; and the implementation of clinical guidelines in managed care.

In October 1998, HSLM sponsored program sessions in conjunction with the Minnesota Library Association annual conference in Rochester, MN. These sessions included "Perils, Pitfalls, and Pleasures of Bringing a Publication to Press", "Diet, Drugs, and Valvular Heart Disease: How the Story Unfolded", and "Prying Open the Door to Tobacco Industry Secrets: the Minnesota Tobacco Trial". Plans are underway for the 1999 HSLM annual meeting to be held in April at the Minnesota History Center in St. Paul, MN. The theme of this year's conference will be health history and genealogy.

North Dakota Library Association Health Science Information Section (NDHSL)

The HSIS (Health Science Information Section) of NDLA (North Dakota Library Association) meets twice a year—once in the spring and once in the fall in conjunction with the NDLA (North Dakota Library Association) meeting. Last spring at the HSIS meeting Barb Knight and Sheila Brown presented a hands-on PubMed training session. Jean Sayre and Judy Rieke gave a presentation on alternative medicine at the Fall Meeting. Presently, the section is working on a

revision of its by-laws and policies. Staff from the National Online Training Center will present a two-day, hands-on PubMed class.

Ohio Health Sciences Library Association (OHSLA)

The Ohio Health Sciences Library Association traditionally schedules two meetings per year. The 1998 Fall Meeting was held at Ohio State University Prior Health Sciences Library. Since OHSLA members continue to express strong interest in MLA-approved continuing education, the meeting featured two such courses. Kathy Davies, Communications Coordinator of NN/LM Greater Midwest Region, taught the hands-on "PubMed: Train the Trainer" workshop. Patricia Gallagher, New York Academy of Medicine, and Jean Sullivant, Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, presented "Evidence-Based Medicine: An Introduction." In addition, almost 70 attendees participated in the semi-annual OHSLA business meeting. Jean Sayre, Acting Director, NN/LM Greater Midwest Region, provided an update on GMR and NLM activities.

OHSLA Program Chair, Patty Augustine and her committee are planning the Spring Meeting, to be held April 20, 1999 at the Josephinum, a Catholic seminary in Worthington. The program will include presentations by Betsy Humphries, Deputy Associate Director, National Library of Medicine, and Chris Shaffer, Technology Coordinator, NN/LM Greater Midwest Region, who will speak on Y2K issues. Tours of the seminary library and chapel will also be available.

During 1999, an OHSLA discussion list will be established to enhance communications among members. In addition, the OHSLA web page will be revitalized. As elections will be held soon, the OHSLA Executive Committee is seeking to identify future leaders for health sciences librarianship in Ohio.

South Dakota Library Association Health Sciences Section

The Section has defined data terms to be used in the development of a library-benchmarking tool. The tool has been completed and will be implemented on a statewide basis during the fiscal year 1998-1999. Data will be collected using sampling methods four times through the

specified period. The Section has received the serials union list master; copies will be distributed to member libraries. The Section is also investigating the procedures for updating SERHOLD records since NLM is implementing a new web-based system.

Wisconsin Health Sciences Libraries Association (WHSLA) (<http://www.whsla.mcw.edu>)

WHSLA has developed a discussion list hosted by the GMR office and has a web page at the Medical College of Wisconsin. WHSLA will hold a spring meeting in conjunction with the MLA conference in Chicago this year. WHSLA has begun a newsletter exchange with the Wisconsin Chapter of the SLA, the Wisconsin Library Council and other library groups to foster communication across the state. WHSLA also sends a representative to the Division of Libraries and Community Learning, a state discussion group. Library issues that have been discussed include BadgerLink, library technology and a strategic plan for Wisconsin libraries to work together. WHSLA is pleased to have been selected to host the Midwest Chapter Meeting, 2001.

Please join the GMR in
extending
congratulations to
Michael Homan
on his election to the
office of President of
the Medical Library
Association.
Michael is the
director of the
Mayo Medical
Center Libraries of the
Mayo Foundation in
Rochester, MN and
currently serves as
editor for the
Bulletin of the
Medical Library
Association.

Spotlight on GMR Consortia

Illinois: The Heart of Illinois Library Consortium has been focusing on consumer health issues in the past year. A roundtable discussion on providing health information to the public led to the publication of consumer health bibliographies in *First Glance*, the Alliance Library Systems newsletter.

During the Fall 1998 meeting, librarians toured the new Community Cancer Center in Normal. The Cancer Center Resource Library is open to the public and was funded by a grant written by Bloomington and Normal librarians. The library collection includes literature for the general public as well as health professionals. The Spring meeting will be held at the Women's Health Center in Peoria.

Indiana: The Central Indiana Health Science Libraries Consortium goals are improving document delivery, better access to information, communication of ideas and skills, and increasing librarian professional development.

The consortium holds quarterly meetings and is composed of hospital libraries, academic libraries, and specialized libraries such as the Foundation for Hand Research and Education. Lora Zick maintains a consortia web site (<http://php.iupui.edu/~lzick/cihslc/home.htm>). The site provides links to resources for collection development, library catalogs, evaluating Internet resources in addition to health care information links.

Kentucky: The Kentucky Health Science Library Consortium provides members with opportunities for networking, resource sharing and continuing education. Recent educational sessions have included alternative medicine and copyright issues. The consortium coordinates the updating of SERHOLD records and publishes a membership directory. The University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville have just become institutional members, allowing the consortia members access to larger

medical collections. The consortium has also experimented with electronic licensing; *Doody's Health Sciences Review* is available to consortium members. Additionally, selected journals have been purchased for sharing among members.

Minnesota/Wisconsin: The Arrowhead Health Sciences Library Network is composed of members from northeastern Minnesota and Superior, Wisconsin. The consortium holds three yearly meetings and the annual meeting is in January. Meetings provide members with an opportunity to share library personnel and institutional changes as well as common problems and possible solutions. The annual meeting was also an opportunity for professional development as members viewed a videotape of a teleconference on Evidence Based Health Care. The next meeting is scheduled for April 23 at the Indianhead Technical College in Wisconsin.

North Dakota: Dakota West Co-operating Libraries is composed

of over 20 libraries in south central North Dakota. A primary focus of the consortium is promoting educational opportunities for consortium members. Recent education workshops have focused on PubMed, Year 2000 compliance (Y2K), and the Government Printing Office (GPO) on the web. The PubMed session was "hands-on" and included information on consumer education sites on the Internet. Attendees at the GPO workshop learned to search the federal register, the congressional record, the United States code, and the code of federal regulations. The Y2K problem is of concern to libraries because of MARC cataloging, due dates, fine accruals and ILL requests.

NCBI WORKSHOPS IN CHICAGO APRIL 27-28, 1999

The Galter Health Sciences Library of Northwestern University will host 2 one-day workshops highlighting the information resources of the NCBI (National Center for Biotechnology Information). Each course has a different intended audience—one for librarians and information specialists and the other for laboratory scientists.

Registration will be required. It is anticipated that there will be a nominal registration fee (less than \$25) to cover printing of manuals and lunch. More information will be forthcoming.

Contact: Reference and Research Services, Galter Health Sciences Library, Northwestern University, 303 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611.

e-mail: gshl-ref@nwu.edu

Molecular Biology Information Resources April 27, (8-5 anticipated)

This course is designed for librarians and information specialists with limited or no previous experience searching molecular sequence databases. The course provides an introduction to the four domains of information generated by the field of molecular biology: nucleotide sequences, protein sequences, genome maps, and three-dimensional structures. Course will include an overview of search systems available at the NCBI, particularly Entrez and Blast. Course will include both lecture and hands-on experience.

Instructor: Renata McCarthy, M.L.S., Technical Information Specialist, NCBI, National Library of Medicine.

A Field Guide to GenBank and NCBI Resources April 28, 9-3

This course is intended for laboratory scientists with limited experience using NCBI resources, or those experienced with one or a few NCBI resources who would like to obtain an overview of the range of resources available at NCBI. This course provides an overview of four domains of information available at the NCBI: nucleotide sequences, protein sequences, genome maps, and three-dimensional structures. It also provides an introduction to Entrez and BLAST search tools, as well as an overview of specialized mapping, analytical and database resources. A morning lecture and demonstration will be followed by afternoon lab sessions.

Instructors: Peter Cooper, Ph.D., Senior Scientist, The Kevric Co., Inc., User services
Renata McCarthy, M.L.S., Technical Information Specialist, NCBI, National Library of Medicine.

Hello, Network Members

Charniel McDaniels,
Network Coordinator

We have three new
DOCLINE Libraries

**Provena Saint Therese
Medical Center**
Waukegan, IL
60085A

**Pikeville College of
Osteopathic Medicine**
Pikeville, KY
41501B

**Lakeland Regional
Health System St.**
Joseph, IN
49120A

Please
welcome
them!

I M P O R T A N T D A T E S

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/gmr/calendar>

National Online Training Center Class Dates

Making the Transition:

Converting to Pub-Med and Internet
Grateful Med to search NLM Databases
Chicago, IL.....March 3, 1999
Dayton, OH.....March 5, 1999
Ann Arbor, MI.....March 24, 1999

Intro to Web-based searching

for the Librarian and Information Specialist
Using Pub-Med and Internet Grateful Med
To Search NLM's Databases
Chicago, IL.....March 1-2, 1999
Ann Arbor, MI.....March 22-23, 1999

For additional 1999 NOTC classes,
class descriptions, and online registra-
tion, check
(<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/mar/online>)

To suggest items for the calendar,
please e-mail (gmr@uic.edu)
or call 800-338-7657

Health Sciences Libraries of Minnesota Spring Meeting

"Family Health History and Genealogy:
Librarians Helping to Bridge the Gap"
April 12, 1998
Minnesota History Center Museum
Contact: Gail Weinberg, University of
Minnesota Bio-medical Library
(612) 624-6492 E-mail: weinb003@tc.umn.edu

Indiana Health Science Librarians Associa- tion Annual Meeting

"Thinking Outside the Box: Learning From
Health Care Colleagues" Benchmarking CE
April 14-16 1999
Instructor: Holly Shipp Buchanan
Walden Inn, Greencastle, IN
Contact Melinda Orebaugh
morebaugh@cam3.com for more info.

Ohio Health Sciences Library Association Spring Meeting

April 20, 1999
Jessing Center
Pontifical College Josephinum
7625 North High Street
Columbus, OH
Contact: Patty Augustine
Chair, OHSLA Program Committee
voice: 330-740-3476
E-mail: paugust@neoucom.edu

Iowa Library Association Health Sciences Roundtable Meeting

Health Resources on the Internet and Ad-
vanced Health Resources on the Internet
will be taught by the NN/LM GMR.
April 22-23, 1999
Iowa City, IA

Medical Library Association Annual Meeting

May 14-20
Chicago, IL
(<http://www.mlanet.org>)

Midwest Chapter/MLA Annual Meeting 1999

October 6-9, 1999
Grand Rapids, MI
Amway Grand Plaza
(<http://www.lib.msu.edu/mhsla/conf99>)

North Dakota Library Association Conference

September 22-25, 1999
Fargo, ND
Doublewood Inn

South Dakota Library Association 1999 Annual Conference

October 6-9, 1999
Watertown, SD

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

UIC
Library of the Health Sciences
(M/C 763)
1750 West Polk Street
Chicago, IL 60612-7223



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UIC

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